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STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

WASHINGTON.

Poliomyelitis—Quarantine—Hospitalization. (Reg. Bd. of H., July 10, 1916.)

Paragraph 12¹ of section 6 of the regulations of the State board of health relating to the control of communicable diseases has been changed to read as follows:

12. *Infantile paralysis or anterior poliomyelitis.*—(a) All cases of anterior poliomyelitis or infantile paralysis shall be handled according to the rules governing cases subject to quarantine.

(b) The patient shall be subject to quarantine for not less than eight weeks from the beginning of the illness.

(c) All persons exposed shall be subject to quarantine for at least 10 days from date of last exposure.

(d) When in the opinion of the health officer it may be advisable, he may order any case of anterior poliomyelitis or infantile paralysis removed to an isolation hospital.

VIRGINIA.

Communicable Diseases—Notification of Cases—Quarantine—Placarding—Disinfection—School Attendance—Burial. (Reg. Bd. of H., May 5, 1916.)

1. *Physician's report of communicable diseases.*—To carry out the provisions of section 2 of an act of assembly, entitled "An act to require the reporting of cases of infectious, contagious, communicable, and dangerous diseases to boards of health (Acts of Assembly, 1910, chap. 307, p. 468), every physician, subject to the penalties of the aforesaid act shall report immediately to the health officer having jurisdiction any cases of the following diseases occurring in his practice, namely, smallpox, Asiatic cholera, bubonic plague, diphtheria, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, cerebrospinal meningitis, typhus fever, and yellow fever, which diseases are hereby denominated as reportable diseases, class 1.

2. To carry out the further provisions of the above act, every physician, subject to the same penalties, shall report once each month to the health officer having jurisdiction any cases of the following diseases occurring in his practice, namely, measles, chicken-pox, tuberculosis, hookworm disease, pellagra, infantile paralysis, rabies, leprosy, and trachoma, which diseases are hereby denominated as reportable diseases, class 2.

3. When any physician finds any disease of class 2 unduly or abnormally prevalent in his practice, he shall report the same immediately to the State board of health

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SMALLPOX.

7. *Diagnosis.*—As soon as the health officer having jurisdiction shall receive report, as required by the above-cited act of assembly, of any case known or suspected to be smallpox or any other dangerous infectious disease, he shall satisfy himself that the necessary precautions are taken to prevent the spread of the disease. If the diag-

¹ Reprint No. 200 from the Public Health Reports, p. 216.

nosis is doubtful, he shall call on the other medical members of the local board of health for their opinion, and the opinion of the majority shall prevail as to the diagnosis. If the said members can not make a definite diagnosis, they shall call on the State board of health, the opinion of whose representative shall be final. Pending a definite diagnosis, a suspicious case should be strictly isolated.

8. *Quarantine.*—Immediately upon establishing a diagnosis of smallpox, every patient and the premises of every patient shall be strictly quarantined. All persons living in the same house shall be quarantined, unless they exhibit scars of successful vaccination recent enough to be protective, in the opinion of the health officer in charge. Those protected by vaccination shall be allowed to leave the premises after fumigation of their effects, but may not return until the quarantine is raised. Unvaccinated persons resident in the house shall be vaccinated and quarantined for 14 days. Any departure from this rule must be with the consent of the State board of health.

9. During the quarantine no person shall visit the premises except the health officer or other persons duly authorized so to do by the health officer. No goods, clothing, or any material whatever, may be taken from the premises, unless authorized by the health officer and under such conditions as he may prescribe.

10. Quarantine for smallpox shall be raised by the health officer only when in his opinion all danger of infection from the cases is passed and after thorough disinfection of the premises and of all exposed material thereupon.

11. *Compulsory vaccination.*—Persons not living on the premises who have been intimately exposed to smallpox and who are not, in the opinion of the health officer, protected by previous vaccination shall be quarantined as though they had the disease, but if they submit to vaccination they may be permitted to go at large under such restrictions as the health officer may place upon them for 14 days.

PREMISES TO BE PLACARDED FOR ALL INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

12. At the entrance to the premises under quarantine, whether for smallpox or other infectious disease, a notice announcing the existence of the disease and warning all persons against entering shall be posted by the health officer. No one shall displace, deface, remove, or cover up any placard or notice thus posted until the quarantine is raised by the health officer.

SCARLET FEVER.

13. *Quarantine and notifications.*—As soon as a diagnosis of scarlet fever is made by the attending physician he shall notify the parent, householder, or other responsible person of the existence of scarlet fever, and quarantine shall begin immediately without further action. The attending physician shall then notify the health officer of the existence and location of the case. The patient shall be placed and shall remain until released (as hereinafter provided) in strict isolation; that is to say, the patient and nurse shall occupy a room or rooms to themselves as far away from the rest of the family as possible. No other persons except the attending physician or the health officer shall enter this room or these rooms during the period of isolation. No article of food, clothing, or of anything that can carry the germs of disease shall be taken from the isolated room or rooms except after being properly disinfected under the direction of the physician or health officer.

14. *Movements of exposed persons.*—During the period of isolation all persons under 15 years of age resident on the premises shall be confined to the premises and may not leave during the period of isolation. Adults, other than those excepted below, may attend their regular vocation, but shall not enter any school, church, Sunday school, public meeting, or other place which children frequent or attend. Adults engaged in any industry connected with the preparation or handling of milk or food,

or with any factory, school, office, shop, store, or other place where persons under 15 years of age are or may be employed or may congregate shall not work at such places during the period of isolation.

15. *Premises to be placarded.*—At the entrance to the premises under quarantine there shall be posted notice announcing the presence of the disease and warning persons not to enter. No person except adults resident on such premises shall be permitted to enter the premises during the period of isolation unless given permission to do so by the health officer.

16. *When quarantine may be raised.*—When the case has recovered and peeling of the skin and all discharges from the throat, nose, and ears have ceased, but not in any case until at least four weeks from the date on which the eruption appeared on the patient, all infected rooms and goods shall be disinfected and the isolation terminated. Disinfection shall be in accordance with the section of these rules governing same.

17. *Isolation of exposed children.*—Children exposed to scarlet fever but who have not developed symptoms of the disease may, in the discretion of the health officer, be isolated elsewhere than on the infected premises. If they do not develop scarlet fever, they may be released by the health officer after seven days.

DIPHTHERIA.

18. *Quarantine and notification.*—As soon as a diagnosis of diphtheria is made by the attending physician, he shall notify the parent, householder, or other responsible person of the existence of diphtheria, and quarantine shall begin immediately without further action. The attending physician shall then notify the health officer of the existence and location of the case. Cases of diphtheria shall be isolated in exactly the same manner as those of scarlet fever, and rules 13, 14, and 15, as hereinbefore laid down, shall apply.

19. *When quarantine may be raised.*—The quarantine for diphtheria shall not be raised, nor shall any children under 15 years of age, including the patient, be allowed to leave the premises until a negative culture from the nose and throat of the child shall have been secured, but in no case until two weeks shall have elapsed from the date of the appearance of the first symptom. If a culture be not taken with a view of determining whether the organism has disappeared, quarantine, as herein prescribed for the patient and other persons on the premises under 15 years of age, shall not be raised for three weeks from the appearance of the first symptom.

20. *Isolation of exposed children.*—Children who have been exposed to diphtheria but who have not developed symptoms of the disease and who have negative cultures from the nose and throat may, in the discretion of the health officer in charge, be isolated elsewhere than on the infected premises, and if they show no sign of diphtheria at the expiration of seven days may be then released from isolation.

MEASLES.

21. *Quarantine and notification.*—As soon as a diagnosis of measles is made by the attending physician, he shall notify the parent, householder, or other responsible person of the existence of measles, and quarantine shall begin immediately without further action. The attending physician shall then notify the health officer of the existence and location of the case. Cases of measles shall not be allowed to leave the premises where they are isolated until all active symptoms have ceased and in no case until 12 days after the appearance of the eruption. No child who has not had the measles and who has been exposed to that disease shall be allowed to go to any school, church, or Sunday school, or other public place, or to play with other children, until 14 days have elapsed after such exposure. Isolation in measles shall include confinement to the infected premises and exclusion from such premises of all persons who have not had measles.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

22. *Movements of infected and exposed persons.*—Cases of whooping cough shall not come or be brought closer than within 30 feet of any person who has not had the disease. They shall wear on the left arm a band of green cloth. These rules shall apply for six weeks after the child begins to whoop, provided the paroxysmal cough has ceased by the expiration of that time. Persons who have not had whooping cough and who have been exposed to it shall remain under the same restrictions as active cases for a period of 14 days.

SCHOOL REGULATIONS.

23. *Children excluded from school.*—Children affected with, or suspected of being, affected with, any of the following diseases shall not be admitted to school: Chicken-pox, diphtheria, impetigo contagiosa, measles, mumps, pediculosis, ringworm, scabies, scarlet fever, smallpox, tuberculosis, trachoma, and whooping cough.

24. *Duty of teachers and school nurses.*—When a teacher or school nurse suspects a child of having one of the above diseases, he or she shall at once notify the family and the health officer having jurisdiction. The latter shall see that the family has the child examined by a physician and a diagnosis established.

25. *Exclusion because of diseases at home.*—Children shall not be admitted to school from homes in which there are cases of any of the following diseases: Whooping cough (unless the child has had the disease), measles (unless the child has had the disease or until seven days after known exposure), diphtheria, scarlet fever, and smallpox.

26. *Readmission of excluded children.*—Children who have been excluded from school for communicable diseases shall not be readmitted except upon the following conditions:

Chicken-pox.—Not until scaling is complete.

Diphtheria.—Not until bacteriological examination shows the absence of infection from nose and throat (three weeks).

Mumps.—Not until after the disappearance of swelling.

Scabies (itch).

Impetigo.

Pediculosis (lice).

Ringworm.

} Not until cure is complete.

Scarlet fever.—Not until four weeks shall have elapsed and until scaling is complete and discharges from throat, nose, and ears have ceased.

Trachoma.—Not until cure is complete.

Whooping cough.—Not until six weeks after the patient begins to whoop, provided the paroxysmal cough has ceased by that time.

Tuberculosis.—Not until sputum is free from tubercle bacilli and patient is apparently cured.

27. Persons excluded on account of any of these diseases shall present a certificate from the health officer stating that all danger from the disease is over before they shall be permitted to return to school.

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DISINFECTION AND DISINFECTANTS.

49. *General rules.*—In disinfecting premises following death, recovery or removal of a patient affected with an infectious disease, the health officer in charge of disinfection shall not depend solely upon fumigation for cleansing the premises, as a gaseous disinfectant, even when the room is tightly sealed, often kills only the germs upon the surface and does not penetrate deeply.

50. *Scrubbing, boiling, etc.*—Scrubbing with soap and water, wiping all floors and woodwork with a disinfectant solution, boiling all material that may properly be boiled and sunning and airing all bedding which can not be boiled shall be included in disinfection.

51. *Fumigation.*—Fumigation shall consist in liberating formaldehyde or sulphur dioxide gas in a room tightly sealed with gummed paper or with cotton batting and so remaining for at least six hours.

52. In fumigating with sulphur, 3 pounds of sulphur must be used for every 1,000 cubic feet of room space. The room so fumigated must remain closed for 24 hours.

53. *Strength of liquid disinfectants.*—Any liquid disinfectant to be approved by the State board of health shall have a carbolic acid coefficient of not less than two as determined by the standard of the United States Hygienic Laboratory.

54. *Standard solutions.*—For strong solutions used in disinfecting stools and badly infected vessels, fabrics, etc., the following should be used:

I.

	Parts.
Bichloride of mercury.....	1
Water (slightly salt).....	500

II.

Alcohol.....	50
Carbolic acid.....	50
Mix and add fresh water.....	900

III.

Any proprietary disinfectant which (1) has a carbolic coefficient of two or more, as determined by the standard of the United States Hygienic Laboratory and which (2) is used as directed on the container.

55. *Weaker approved solutions.*—For ordinary purposes the following weaker solutions may be used:

I.

	Parts.
Bichloride of mercury.....	1
Water (slightly salt).....	1, 000

II.

Carbolic acid.....	25
Fresh water.....	1, 000

III.

Formaldehyde (U. S. P.).....	50
Water.....	950

56. *Disinfection of materials.*—Materials shall be disinfected as follows:

Sheets, towels, linens, and white goods shall be disinfected by boiling for at least 10 minutes.

Bedding or woollen goods which can not be boiled should be disinfected by fumigation or soaked for two hours in one of the above disinfectant solutions.

China, glass, and crockery shall be disinfected by boiling for at least 10 minutes.

Furniture and woodwork shall be disinfected by wiping with a standard disinfectant solution.

Mattresses used by smallpox cases shall be burned.

Handkerchiefs, rags, and other materials of small value soiled with discharges from diphtheria, scarlet fever, or smallpox shall be burned.

BURIALS AND FUNERALS.

57. The body of anyone dead from smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis, epidemic pneumonia, tuberculosis, typhoid fever, typhus fever, bubonic plague, Asiatic cholera, and leprosy shall be prepared for burial by washing or embalming the body with an approved disinfectant solution and completely enveloping it in a cloth or garments thoroughly saturated with such solution. The casket, coffin, or box containing a body with any of the above-mentioned diseases, after having once been sealed, shall not be opened for any purpose whatsoever, except by the express permission of the local health officer and under such conditions as he may prescribe.

58. *When public funerals are prohibited.*—Public funerals shall not be allowed for anyone dead of smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis, epidemic pneumonia, bubonic plague, Asiatic cholera, typhus fever, or leprosy.

Schools—Sanitary Regulation. (Reg. Bd. of H., May 5, 1916.)

28. *Air space and ventilation.*—Every building used for school purposes, public or private, shall comply with the State law regarding the amount of cubic space per pupil and amount of fresh air to be supplied (ch. 56, Acts of Assembly, 1908).

29. The air in any schoolroom shall be kept at all times in a wholesome condition and exercises shall be suspended as often as necessary in order to renew the air in any room the ventilation of which is defective.

30. *Sweeping and cleaning.*—No schoolroom shall be swept until all school exercises have been concluded for the day.

31. The floor of a schoolroom shall not be swept without first having been sprinkled with water or covered with damp sawdust, dustless floor powder, or damp paper, unless the floor has recently been oiled.

32. All sweepings must be removed daily from the schoolroom.

33. The furniture and woodwork of every school building shall be wiped down with an approved disinfectant solution whenever an infectious disease shall be found among the pupils.

34. *Drinking water.*—Every school, public or private, shall be furnished at all times, when in use, with an adequate supply of pure, fresh drinking water. This shall be running water wherever such water is available. If running water is not available, a tank or cooler shall be supplied, furnished with a spigot or bubbler or with a dipper, provided the dipper shall be used only for dipping the water from such tank or cooler and not for direct drinking.

35. *Individual drinking cups.*—If no satisfactory bubbling fountain be provided at the school, every pupil in attendance shall be required to have and to use an individual cup which shall be for his exclusive use. The use of the common drinking cup at any school is hereby forbidden under all circumstances.

36. *Source of supply.*—The well, spring, or cistern from which water is drawn for drinking purposes at the school must be safely protected against pollution.

37. *Sanitary privies at schools.*—Every building used for public-school purposes shall be furnished with two closets, one for males and one for females, separate as far as possible from each other and so arranged as to give the greatest possible privacy to persons using same. School buildings to which water and sewerage are available shall be provided with water-closets and connected with the sewerage system or with a satisfactory sewage disposal plant. Where water and sewerage are not available, buildings shall be provided with privies, in which the excrement shall not endanger a source of drinking water and shall not be accessible to flies and animals. Such privies shall be at all times maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. A urinal shall be provided at the privy for males.